

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Steve M. Vaughn, District No. 5

Members: Mr. Milton Farley, District No. 1
Mrs. Judith K. Spooner, District No. 2
Mr. William E. Crosby, District No. 3
Mr. Charles E. Davis, District No. 4
Mrs. Judy C. Mims, District No. 6
Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr. District No. 7
Mr. Henry L. Richardson, Jr., District No. 8
Mr. James H. Rozier, Jr., Supervisor, ex officio

The COMMITTEE ON FINANCE met on Monday, August 20, 2001, Berkeley County Office Building, 223 North Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, at 7:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. Steve M. Vaughn, Councilmember District No. 5, Chairman; Mr. Milton Farley, Councilmember District No. 1; Mrs. Judith K. Spooner, District No. 2; Mr. William E. Crosby, Councilmember District No. 3; Mr. Charles E. Davis, Councilmember District No. 4; Mrs. Judy C. Mims, Councilmember District No. 6; Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., Councilmember District No. 7; Mr. Henry L. Richardson, Jr., Councilmember District No. 8; Mr. James H. Rozier, Jr., Supervisor, ex officio; and Mr. D. Mark Stokes, County Attorney.

The requirements of the Freedom of Information Act have been complied with by posting the time, date, place and agenda of this meeting of Berkeley County Council at the entrance to the Berkeley County Office Building, 223 N. Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, and a copy of such notice was mailed to all Councilmembers and the News media.

Chairman Vaughn called the meeting to order and stated the first item on the agenda was Consideration prior to First Reading of the following:

1. An Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and among Berkeley County, South Carolina, and Triton PCS Holdings Company, LLC; and other matters relating hereto including, without limitation, payment of a fee in lieu of taxes.

2. An Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and among Berkeley County, South Carolina, DIBS-SUN, LLC; and other matters relating thereto including, without limitation, payment of a fee in lieu of taxes.

Supervisor Rozier stated #1 and #2 are the same company; one is real estate and the other equipment, which is the Communications Company that would open on Daniel Island.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Crosby to send the ordinance to Council for First Reading. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item B, Review prior to Second Reading of Bill No. 01-39, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 87-6-9 providing for the creation of the Berkeley County Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, appointment of committee members and the rules and regulations governing the operation of the committee.

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Councilmember Crosby to send Bill No. 01-39 to Second Reading.

This ordinance would change the appointee's terms to run concurrent with the Councilmember in the district.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item C, Review prior to Third Reading of Bill No. 01-30, an Ordinance to amend the Berkeley County Operational Budget (Ordinance 01-06-19) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2002, and to provide for levy reducing ad valorem property taxes to the amount of fifty-two and one half mills.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Davis to send Bill No. 01-30 to Council for Third Reading.

Supervisor Rozier this would allow unused funds that are left in salary line items to be transferred to the General Fund only, which would be amended in Section 18 of the Budget Ordinance.

Mr. Stokes stated the language of the Ordinance would read "furthermore, unused salary appropriations may be transferred from any department activity or purpose to the General Fund by action of the Supervisor without further action required by the County Council."

The motion, as amended, was passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item D, Resolution relating to the declaration of intent by Berkeley County, South Carolina, to reimburse certain expenditures prior to the issuance by the County of its tax exempt debt.

It was moved by Councilmember Crosby and seconded by Farley to send the Resolution to Council for adoption.

Mr. Lee Moulder of BCW&SA stated this Resolution was to allow them to expend funds to expand the Solid Waste Landfill. They are preparing to expand into cells 5 and 6, which would be needed over the next several years as well as completion on the current Subtitle D

Landfill. He stated that in the Capital Improvement Fund Budget they are going to issue \$2,650,000 in revenue bonds. This Resolution allows them to expend the funds now and not issue the bonds; and if it's not passed they won't be able to reimburse themselves out of the bond proceeds. The expenditures are for engineering fees and start-up cost. They are trying to avoid paying interest on the bond until several months later.

Supervisor Rozier stated they would currently use the fund balance and replace it when the bond is issued. This would allow the work to be done without paying interest on the bond until necessary. Mr. Moulder stated that once the bond is issued they would reimburse the fund balance.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Item E, REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Councilmember Milton Farley, Chairman.

Councilmember Farley stated the Committee met on August 13 and he moved to approve their recommendation to approve the purchase of one ANI GESTAR in the amount of \$2,609 and the purchase of 800 MHz radios in the amount of \$6,143 to be added to the E911 budget, the funds to come from the 911 subscriber fees. (No Second was required.)

Supervisor Rozier further explained that this does not affect County budget, the money comes from the 911 funds.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Councilmember Farley moved to approve a recommendation of the Committee for a salary upgrade for Judge Paula Lewis in the amount of \$1,169. (No Second was required.)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Councilmember Farley moved to approve a recommendation from the Committee to fund the salary of a newly appointed magistrate. (No Second was required.)

Supervisor Rozier stated that when the Contingency fund runs out this year, remember that the Senators took 10 percent of it by appointing a magistrate after the budget was approved without discussing it with County Council, without them even having input as to whether the additional magistrate was needed, it was forced on them.

Councilmember Pinckney asked what was the total for the new position? The total was \$31,323 for the balance of the year; the annual salary is \$37,000.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Councilmember Farley moved to approve a recommendation from the Committee for a full-time bailiff for the Clerk of Court's office using funds from a part-time position. (No Second was required.)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Councilmember Farley moved to approve the Committee's recommendation to transfer \$6,000.00 within the Sheriff's department budget from vehicle maintenance to the capital vehicle line. (No Second was required.)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Councilmember Farley moved to accept the Committee's recommendation on the emergency repair of the exit gate on the Sally Port at the Detention Center. (No Second was required.)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Councilmember Farley moved to approve the recommendation of the Committee to replace the fire alarm system at the Sheriff's Department. (No Second was required.)

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Chairman Vaughn addressed the Addendum item; Consideration of a Resolution authorizing Berkeley County, South Carolina to consent to the assignment by Liberty Property Limited Partnership of its interest in a real property lease purchase agreement pursuant to a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and other matters related thereto.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Farley to send the Resolution to Council for Adoption. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

It was moved by Councilmember Spooner and seconded by Councilmember Richardson to adjourn. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

**ADDENDUM TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
SCHEDULED TO MEET AUGUST 20, 2001
AT 6:00 PM**

ADD:

F. Consideration of a Resolution authorizing Berkeley County, South Carolina to consent to the assignment by Liberty Property Limited Partnership of its interest in a real property lease purchase agreement pursuant to a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and other matters related thereto.

August 15, 2001
S/Barbara B. Austin
Clerk to County Council

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There will be a Meeting of the COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council, on Monday August 20, 2001, in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Office Building, 223 North Live Oak Drive, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, immediately following a meeting of the Committee on Public Works and Purchasing, the Committee on Land Use, the Committee on Planning and Development, and Public Hearings at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

A. Consideration prior to First Reading of the following:

1. An Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and among Berkeley County, South Carolina, and Triton PCS Holdings Company, L.L.C.; and other matters relating hereto including, without limitation, payment of a fee in lieu of taxes.

2. An Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and among Berkeley County, South Carolina, and DIBS-SUN, LLC; and other matters relating thereto including, without limitation, payment of a fee in lieu of taxes.

B. Review prior to Second Reading of Bill No. 01-39, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 87-6-9 providing for the creation of the Berkeley County Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, appointment of committee members, and the rules and regulations governing the operation of the committee.

C. Review prior to Third Reading of Bill No. 01-30, An Ordinance to amend the Berkeley County Operational Budget (Ordinance 01-06-19) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2002, and to provide for levy reducing ad valorem property taxes to the amount of fifty-two and one half mills.

D. RESOLUTION relating to the declaration of intent by Berkeley County, South Carolina, to reimburse certain expenditures prior to the issuance by the County of its tax-exempt debt.

E. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. Committee on Justice and Public Safety
Council Member Milton Farley, Chairman
 - a. Administrative Services: Approval of additional budget items.
 - b. Magistrate:
 1. Position upgrade.
 2. Funding of new position.
 - c. Sheriff's Department:
 1. Transfer of funds within department.
 2. Funding of emergency repair to Sally Port.
 3. Replace fire alarm.

August 15, 2001
S/Barbara B. Austin
Clerk to County Council